



# News Release

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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**Release 2006-28**

### **Water Supply Committee: Streams to Peak Soon, Some Flooding Expected**

For Immediate Release  
Boise, Idaho – May 16, 2006

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Record high temperatures across Idaho this week are causing high country snow packs to melt at a rapid pace meaning stream flows could peak within the week. But how long the peak flows continue will likely depend on how hot the coming days are, and how long they last. Right now, the forecast calls for temperatures to cool down to seasonal levels of the mid 70's early next week. Lower temperatures should help stabilize the snow pack and slow the melt.

That's a summary of the information presented today during the Idaho Water Supply Committee's final meeting for the year.

Committee members say some flooding is expected on the Big Wood River near Hailey and on the Big Lost River where streams reach peak flows in early to mid June. On the Boise River, federal water managers say the reservoir system should be able to absorb the peak in-flows without forcing increased flows through Boise provided there is no unforeseen weather event.

Some precipitation is expected to accompany next week's cooler temperatures but shouldn't be enough to change river flows, according to the National Weather Service. However, there is a great deal of snow in the higher elevations and committee members say it is much too early to predict when the flooding danger will pass.

The good news is Idaho will have a full supply of water this summer for irrigation, river recreation, and other uses.

The Water Supply Committee is made up of hydrologists and water managers from both the private and public sectors. Members each contribute data and input used to formulate a comprehensive water supply picture for 2006.

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